UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. DeLoach DATE: 5-27-64

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: HARRIET VAN HORNE
CRITICISM OF FBI
NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM AND THE SUN
DATED MAY 26, 1964

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Nease
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

## BACKGROUND:

Captioned individual in her column of May 26, 1964, entitled "Doubts About Dallas" refers to recent writings about the assassination of President Kennedy. In referring to historical writings in general she states she is a skeptic and refers to some of the recent news stories about Lee Harvey Oswald and the doubt that has been expressed by some that he is the assassin. Miss Van Horne refers to the rumors and erroneous stories already discredited by the FBI such as the recently released photograph allegedly showing an individual who resembled Oswald in the doorway of the Texas Schoolbook Depository at the time President Kennedy was shot; there were five bullets involved in the assassination, some of the shots coming from in front of President Kennedy; Oswald was working as an informant for the FBI. Miss Van Horne claims these questions will be argued by historians for years and refers to the ineptitudes of the Dallas Police Department and the Secret Service and the "arrogant, above-the-fray attitude of the FBI. In a democracy there is no place for 'secret police,' however holy their reputation."

## INFORMATION IN BUREAU FILES:

Harriet Lowe

According to the current edition of "Who's Who of American Women, Harriet Van Horne was born 5-17-20 at Syracuse, New York. She received a B. A. degree from the University of Rochester in 1940. She is married to David Lowe. She is a television critic and columnist with the New York World Telegram and the Sun where she has been employed since 1942. She has also been associated with the Scripps-Howard Newspapers as a TV columnist since 1962. She is a free-lance magazine writer and is a frequent panelist on radio and television. She resides in New York City.

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According to the current issue of "Celebrity Register," Harriet Van Horne has made news several times with her columns; a parody of an Ed Sullivan column regarding Cardinal Spellman which was later pulled from the paper; her columns on Margaret Truman's singing, one of which stated "She got her best reception when the audience was entirely members of a ladies Democratic club."

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Rosen

JUN 17 1964

SENT DIRECTOR
5-28-64

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Bureau files reveal only three references to Miss Van Horne. In 1958 one of her television columns referred to the television industry's efforts to improve television programs. In connection with violence on television she referred to typical letters she had received from TV viewers one of whom referred to the Director as stating that some types of television programs are unhealthy entertainment and a contributing factor to juvenile delinquency. The two other references deal with her name being mentioned during our investigation of subjects of Bureau cases who referred to her radio or television column but there was no indication that Harriet Van Horne was associated with these individuals.

A check of the New York indices today failed to disclose any pertinent references to Miss Van Horne.

Richard D. Peters, Editor of the New York World-Telegram and the Sun, is on the Special Correspondents' List and we have had cordial relations with him and his newspaper. Last outgoing correspondence to him was 5-13-64 in connection with the Director's 40th Anniversary.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

Suggest I talk with Walter Stone re this woman -

5/18

Yes.